

Microwave resonant technique in studies of photodielectric properties of bulk, thin film and nanoparticle materials

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Abstract

© 2016 IOP Publishing Ltd Printed in the UK. An enhanced contactless microwave technique allows us to study the photoconductivity of materials. The transient response of the complex permittivity of matter ($\epsilon = \epsilon_1 - j\epsilon_2$) under optical irradiation is measured with nanosecond time resolution. The main advantage of the novel methodology is the elimination of the polarization effect in evaluating photoconductivity. The potential of the methodology was demonstrated by photoconductivity measurements in Si [1 0 0] crystal, CeO₂ nanocrystalline powder and Ce-doped LiYF₄ single crystal. The variations of complex permittivity ($\delta\epsilon_1$ and $\delta\epsilon_2$) of Si [1 0 0] crystal, CeO₂ nanocrystalline powder and Ce-doped LiYF₄ single crystal under optical irradiation was measured and accurate values for crystalline band gaps were extracted. Finally, quantum confinement effects were observed in nano-size crystalline powders.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1088/0957-0233/27/6/065004>

Keywords

microwave resonant technique, photoconductivity measurements, polarization effect